

Amendments to the Specification

In the Specification:

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the specification stating that on page 12, lines 15-16, the numeral "304" should be -- 310 --.

Accordingly, please replace the paragraph on page 12 spanning lines 6-17, beginning with "Fig. 2B is a cross-sectional view..." and ending with "and the adjacent surface of the upper skin 204," with the following rewritten paragraph:

"Fig. 2B is a cross-sectional view of another embodiment of either the joining member 208C of Fig. 2. In the embodiment of Fig. 2B, the surface 300 of the joining member 208C includes a single ridge 310 at or near the centerline of the joining member 208C. The ridge 310 extends along the longitudinal axis of the joining member 208C and has a height "H1" above the surface 300. Referring back to Fig. 1, in mechanically connecting the joining member 208C to the adjacent surface of the upper skin 204, an adhesive material is positioned between the surface 300 of the joining member 208C and the adjacent surface of the upper skin 204. Pressure is applied between the joining member 208C and the upper skin 204, causing the adhesive material to flow and spread across the surface 300 of the joining member 208C. The outermost surface (i.e., highest peak) of the ridge 310 expectedly contacts the adjacent surface of the upper skin 204. In this manner, the ridge 310 determines a bond-line thickness of the adhesive material existing around the center of the surface 300 of the joining member 208C and the adjacent surface of the upper skin 204."